

Benchmarking 20 % mobility: Summary

“In 2020, at least 20% of those graduating in the European Higher Education Area should have had a study or training period abroad.”
(Leuven/Louvain-la-Neuve Communiqué, para 18)

To measure progression towards the 20% target of international student mobility defined in the Leuven/Louvain-la-Neuve Communiqué, BFUG is asked to approve the following benchmark indicator:

Percentage of those graduating in the EHEA that coming from the EHEA graduated in a country different from their origin or have spent a period abroad rendering credit for the programme they have completed

For this purpose, the following definitions are used to measure the degree to which students are mobile:

1. Mobility means physical mobility.
2. The measurement is a snapshot picture of the percentage of graduates having been mobile at a given time, i.e. 2012, 2015, 2018 and 2010.
3. Mobility is defined as outgoing mobility.
4. Two types of mobility are being considered: credit mobility and degree mobility
 - 4.1. credit mobility: a mobile student has gained at least one credit on returning to his/her home institution with the institution being aware that the student has been mobile. Credit mobility takes place within the programme the student is completing.
 - 4.2. degree mobility: a student has been awarded a degree in a country that is different from the one in which he/she has been awarded a qualification prior to the latest degree.
 - 4.3. Joint degrees should be counted.
5. All cycles of higher education are covered. However, during the third cycle only degree mobility is measured.
6. Regional spread: Degree mobility is measured within the EHEA while credit mobility covers the EHEA and the other regions of the world.
7. The origin of a mobile student is his/her country of previous education and/or residence. The nationality factor is not considered.

The benchmark indicator and the definitions on which it is based require further work from the statistical offices regarding the feasibility of collecting those data. Moreover, the UOE data collectors are asked to adapt their definitions to the ones given above.

Data will increasingly become available over the period to be covered.

Post scriptum: Qualitative information differentiating by type of mobility and by characteristics of students will also be collected. Moreover, balanced mobility will be covered by the overall report. This indicator will look at the share of students sent abroad by one particular country versus the share of students received. The indicator will look at the flows of students from and to different countries. These flows will be different by type of mobility.